MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

कृषि उत्पादों की खेती के लिए उपयोग में लायी जाने वाली भूमि

*121 **श्री राम जेठमलानी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान देश में विभिन्न कृषि उत्पादों की खेती के लिए उपयोग में लायी जाने वाली भूमि की मात्रा में भारी परिवर्तन हुआ है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष 1990-91 और 1994-95 के दौरान गेहूं, धान, तिलहन, दलहन, कपास, गन्ना, फल-सब्जियों की खेती के लिए कितनी-कितनी भूमि को उपयोग में लाया गया था?

कृषि मंत्री (श्री चतुरानन मिश्र): (क) तथा (ख) 1990-91 की तुलना में 1994-95 के दौरान चावल, मोटे अनाजों और दलहनों के तहत आने वाले क्षेत्रों में कमी आई है जबकि गेहूं के अलावा अन्य गैर-खाद्यान्न फसलों, जैसे-तिलहन, कपास, गन्ना, फलों और सब्जियों के तहत आने वाले क्षेत्र में वृद्धि हुई है। 1990-91 तथा 1994-95 के दौरान इन फसलों के तहत आने वाले क्षेत्रों को दर्शाने वाला विवरण संलग्न है।

विवरण

1990-91 और 1994-95 के दौरान चुनिन्दा फसलों के अन्तर्गत आने वाला क्षेत्र (हजार हैक्टेयर में)— अखिल भारत।

फसल	1990-91	1994-95
गेहूं	24167	25639
चावल	42687	42244
मोटे अनाज	36319	32499
दलहन	24662	23166
तिलहन	24148	25260
कपास	7440	7925
गन्ना	3686	3815
फल	2646	2989 (अनन्तिम)
सब्जियां	4046	4361 (अनन्तिम)

Non-Import of Urea by NFL and PPCL

*125. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any investigation has been undertaken to find out the reasons as to why NFL and PPCL were unable to import any urea during 1994-95;

(b) whether standard bid conditions were changed and suspect offers were received in 1994-95 for import of urea;

(c) whether the above was brought to the notice by the canalising agency MMTC to NFL and PPCL; and

(d) if so, the preventive action taken by Government to streamline the bidding process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) In order to avoid undesirable competition between MMTC Ltd. and the new importing agencies inducted during Rabi 1994-95, viz. National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) and Pyrites, Phosphates and Chemicals Limited (PPCL), the latter were directed not to procure urea from MMTC's traditional suppliers in the main sourcing territories of the Arabian Gulf and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). NFL and PPCL could not deliver any quantity of urea during 1994-95 as the non-traditional suppliers, on whom they ahd placed orders as a consequences of this restriction, could not perform.

(b) and (d) While the tender conditions adopted by NFL and PPCL largely followed the standard terms of MMTC, there were some variations essentially in respect of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) conditons of NFL and PPCL, which were subject to the sourcing restrictions referred to above. Subsequently, similar EMD conditions were adopted for some time by MMTC as well. After the removal of the restrictions in regard to the sourcing of urea imports, the procedures for import of ureau during 1995-96 were standardised for all canalising agencies. These procedures have been reviewed from time to time.